

## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to analysis of the alterations in p21<sup>waf1/cip1</sup> gene and its expression in relation to p53 status in oesophageal cancer, a method for screening of subjects having or at risk of having esophageal cancer by detection of the polymorphism in p21<sup>waf1/cip1</sup> gene, and use thereof as a diagnostic marker.